(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Kerala State Government has requested the Centre to revoke this decision; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

National trade union convention held on the 14th July, 1988

458. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a National Trade Union Convention was held in New Delhi on the 14th July, 1988 to protest against the Trade Unions and Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the points raised against the Bill have been examined; and

(d) if so, what action is being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) Press Reports indicate that such a Convention was held in New Delhi on that date.

(b) The Convention is reported to have been attended, among others, by the representatives of the BMS, the HMS, the CITU, the UTUC (LS), the UTUC, the AITUC and the TUCC.

(c) and (d) These are expressions of view-points by various organisations, and do not call for any action by Government at the present juncture. As the Bill is now before Parliament, no doubt the view-points will be raised in the discussions in Parliament, and dealth with there.

Reduction in man-power requirement by SAIL

459. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SAIL is envisaging substantial reduction in its man-power requirement in the wake of modernisation; and

(b) if so, what action is being contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) Man-power planning for the Plants undergoing modernisation has to take into account the requirement both in numbers and upgraded skills of the modernised plants. SAIL are attempting to retrain and redeploy the existing manpower to new areas of work to meet with the requirement of superior technological practices. This would improve the utilisation of man-power leading to improved productivity. However, man-power requirement in the wake of modernisation is envisaged to be less than the present requirement.

Allocation of foodgrains for Public Distribution System

460. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foodgrains allocations to States to meet the needs of public distribution system has been drasticaly cut off by Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the foodgrains allocated to each State during the last two years;

(d) whether the demands of the State Governments have been fully met; and